NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE (CDL) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://newhampshirecdl.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright 1

Table of Contents 2

Introduction 3

How to Use This Guide 4

Questions 5

Answers 8

Explanations 10

Next Steps 16

SAMPLE

Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

SAMPLE

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. **What is the maximum allowable blood alcohol concentration (BAC) for a commercial driver?**

   A. 0.02%

   B. 0.04%

   C. 0.08%

   D. 0.10%

2. **When backing your vehicle and unsure of your position, what should you do?**

   A. Re-position the vehicle to your start position

   B. Get out of your vehicle and check your position

   C. Continue backing until you can verify your position in the mirrors

   D. Turn your body to look through the rear window

3. **What is the recommended action if your vehicle's brake system fails?**

   A. Pump the brake pedal

   B. Shift into neutral

   C. Use the emergency brake

   D. Turn off the engine

4. **What driving approach involves preparing for potential hazards?**

   A. Defensive driving

   B. Offensive driving

   C. Reactive driving

   D. Intuitive driving

5. **What should you do when you encounter a stopped school bus with flashing lights?**

   A. Pass quickly on the left

   B. Continue driving with caution

   C. Stop at least 25 feet away

   D. Honk your horn to inform the kids

SAMPLE

6. For safety, how should you set out reflective triangles?

A. Keep them out of sight while you walk to set them out
B. Carry the triangles at your side
C. Hold the triangles between yourself and oncoming traffic
D. Set them up quickly without concern for safety

7. Which statement about overhead clearance is accurate?

A. The weight of a vehicle changes its height
B. Assume posted clearance signs are correct
C. Drive close to the shoulder to avoid obstacles
D. Clearance signs apply only to unloaded vehicles

8. Which of these is usually true about driving in tunnels?

A. Headlights are required by law
B. Speeds are limited to 40 mph or less
C. There may be crosswinds exiting
D. Radio signals are stronger inside tunnels

9. What is the correct protocol for notifying authorities after an accident?

A. You must first exit your vehicle
B. Exact location of the accident is not important
C. Use a CB radio before exiting your vehicle
D. Always notify authorities after the incident

10. What is a common consequence of brake failure in commercial vehicles?

A. Increased fuel consumption
B. Increased stopping distance
C. Inability to steer
D. Brake overheating

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

1. B
2. B
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. C
7. A
8. C
9. C
10. B

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is the maximum allowable blood alcohol concentration (BAC) for a commercial driver?

A. 0.02%

B. 0.04%

C. 0.08%

D. 0.10%

The maximum allowable blood alcohol concentration (BAC) for a commercial driver is 0.04%. This limit is significantly lower than the BAC limits for non-commercial drivers, reflecting the responsibility that commercial drivers have while operating large vehicles or transporting passengers and cargo. A lower BAC limit is enforced for commercial drivers because they must maintain a heightened level of focus and control, as the size and weight of commercial vehicles can make them more difficult to maneuver compared to standard vehicles. Operating under the influence of alcohol at any level presents a danger, so the regulations aim to enhance road safety. The other BAC levels referenced in the options are either above the legal limit for commercial drivers or pertain to different categories of drivers, emphasizing the stricter standards that apply to those driving commercial vehicles.

2. When backing your vehicle and unsure of your position, what should you do?

A. Re-position the vehicle to your start position

B. Get out of your vehicle and check your position

C. Continue backing until you can verify your position in the mirrors

D. Turn your body to look through the rear window

When you are backing a vehicle and feel uncertain about your position, getting out of your vehicle to check your surroundings is the safest and most effective choice. This practice allows you to visually assess the area behind your vehicle, ensuring there are no obstacles, pedestrians, or other vehicles that you might not have seen from the driver's seat or through mirrors. Back up situations can be particularly hazardous due to limited visibility. While many drivers may rely on mirrors or camera systems, they can sometimes provide a misleading view of the area around the vehicle. Physically exiting the vehicle allows for a more comprehensive understanding of your environment and significantly reduces the risk of accidents. In contrast, returning the vehicle to the starting position, continuing to back without verification, or simply looking through the rear window may not provide an adequate assessment of the situation, as they do not guarantee visibility of potential hazards or changes in the environment. Thus, stepping out of the vehicle is a proactive approach to ensuring safety while maneuvering in tight spaces.

SAMPLE

3. What is the recommended action if your vehicle's brake system fails?

A. Pump the brake pedal

B. Shift into neutral

C. Use the emergency brake

D. Turn off the engine

If your vehicle's brake system fails, the recommended action is to use the emergency brake. The emergency brake, also known as the parking brake, is designed to engage the vehicle's wheels directly and can help bring the vehicle to a stop when the main braking system is not functioning. It is a critical safety feature that can help prevent accidents in the event of brake failure, as it can apply additional braking force to bring the vehicle under control. Utilizing the emergency brake requires careful consideration and should be done progressively, as pulling it too hard can cause the wheels to lock up, which could lead to a loss of control. It's important to remain calm and focus on bringing the vehicle to a stop safely, while also signaling to other drivers that there is an issue. While pumping the brake pedal might sometimes temporarily restore brake pressure in certain situations, it is not a reliable method if the entire brake system has completely failed. Shifting into neutral may help reduce speed, but it won't stop the vehicle and could lead to unwanted consequences. Turning off the engine might stall the vehicle but could also remove power from the steering and braking systems, making it more difficult to control the vehicle.

4. What driving approach involves preparing for potential hazards?

A. Defensive driving

B. Offensive driving

C. Reactive driving

D. Intuitive driving

Defensive driving is the approach that involves preparing for potential hazards while operating a vehicle. This driving technique emphasizes awareness and anticipation of possible dangers on the road, such as other drivers' actions, road conditions, weather changes, and other unpredictable factors. By adopting a defensive driving mindset, drivers are encouraged to maintain a safe following distance, stay alert, and be ready to respond safely to unexpected situations, thereby reducing the risk of accidents. In contrast, other driving approaches do not focus primarily on hazard anticipation. Offensive driving tends to involve a more aggressive and proactive style, emphasizing speed and assertiveness rather than caution. Reactive driving signifies a response to an immediate situation without prior preparation, while intuitive driving suggests a reliance on instincts without a structured strategy for managing risks. Defensive driving is the best practice for maintaining safety and mitigating hazards on the road.

SAMPLE

5. What should you do when you encounter a stopped school bus with flashing lights?

A. Pass quickly on the left

B. Continue driving with caution

C. Stop at least 25 feet away

D. Honk your horn to inform the kids

When you encounter a stopped school bus with its flashing lights activated, stopping at least 25 feet away is critical for ensuring the safety of children who may be boarding or deboarding the bus. The flashing lights signify that children are potentially crossing the road, and by stopping, you provide them with a safe environment to do so. This law is designed to protect some of the most vulnerable road users—schoolchildren. Stopping at this distance gives children enough room to cross safely and allows bus drivers and monitors to watch for their safety. Other options, such as passing the bus or continuing to drive, neglect the serious dangers presented in such situations. Honking your horn, while may seem like a way to alert children, does not contribute to their safety and could potentially startle them or cause confusion. Therefore, stopping appropriately as mandated is the most responsible and safest action to take when approaching a stopped school bus.

6. For safety, how should you set out reflective triangles?

A. Keep them out of sight while you walk to set them out

B. Carry the triangles at your side

C. Hold the triangles between yourself and oncoming traffic

D. Set them up quickly without concern for safety

The correct practice for setting out reflective triangles is to hold them between yourself and oncoming traffic. This method ensures that you maintain visibility and protection from vehicles that might approach your location. By placing yourself in a position where the triangles are visible to oncoming drivers while also keeping yourself safe, you reduce the risk of being struck by a vehicle. This approach emphasizes the importance of personal safety while effectively signaling to other drivers about the hazard ahead. It allows you to maintain awareness of potential dangers while you are actively working to alert others. The other approaches may compromise safety in various ways. For instance, keeping the triangles out of sight while walking to set them out can lead to a lack of visibility for both you and approaching drivers, increasing the risk of accidents. Carrying the triangles at your side does not maximize their visibility, which is crucial for alerting traffic to your situation. Setting them up quickly without regard for safety disregards essential safety protocols that protect both you and other road users. Therefore, holding the triangles between yourself and oncoming traffic is the safest and most effective method.

SAMPLE

7. Which statement about overhead clearance is accurate?

A. The weight of a vehicle changes its height

B. Assume posted clearance signs are correct

C. Drive close to the shoulder to avoid obstacles

D. Clearance signs apply only to unloaded vehicles

The height of a vehicle, which is critical when considering overhead clearance, is a fixed measurement based on the vehicle's design. It does not change due to the weight of the vehicle; therefore, understanding that the height remains constant regardless of load is fundamental for safe navigation under bridges or other overhead structures. This insight underscores the importance of recognizing the vehicle's true height at all times to avoid accidents and equipment damage. The other options do not accurately reflect the principles of safely assessing overhead clearance. For instance, assuming posted clearance signs are always correct can lead to dangerous situations due to variables like road conditions or maintenance issues. Driving close to the shoulder does not guarantee safety from obstacles and could lead to losing control of the vehicle. Furthermore, clearance signs are meant to accommodate vehicles with varying loads, so it's vital to account for the vehicle's height, regardless of whether it is loaded or unloaded.

8. Which of these is usually true about driving in tunnels?

A. Headlights are required by law

B. Speeds are limited to 40 mph or less

C. There may be crosswinds exiting

D. Radio signals are stronger inside tunnels

The correct choice highlights that there may be crosswinds when exiting tunnels. This phenomenon occurs due to changes in air pressure and the design of the tunnel structure itself. As vehicles pass through a tunnel and emerge back into an open area, the difference in environmental conditions can create wind shifts that may affect a vehicle's stability and handling. It's critical for drivers to be aware of this potential for crosswinds, as it can be particularly hazardous, especially for larger vehicles like trucks or buses that are more sensitive to wind forces. While headlights are often required in tunnels for visibility and safety, the specifics can vary by location and are generally aimed at enhancing safety rather than a universal rule. Speed limits might not strictly enforce a maximum of 40 mph or less in all tunnels, as the limits depend on tunnel design, location, and traffic conditions. Finally, radio signals tend to weaken rather than strengthen inside tunnels due to the lack of signal reception and the shielding effect of the tunnel structure. Understanding these factors can help drivers prepare adequately for the unique driving conditions presented in tunnels.

SAMPLE

9. What is the correct protocol for notifying authorities after an accident?

A. You must first exit your vehicle

B. Exact location of the accident is not important

C. Use a CB radio before exiting your vehicle

D. Always notify authorities after the incident

The correct protocol after an accident involves notifying authorities to ensure that the situation is handled properly. This means that regardless of the circumstances surrounding the accident, it's important to report the incident to law enforcement. This is crucial for documentation purposes, legal reasons, and to ensure that any necessary medical assistance can be provided. Using a CB radio to communicate before exiting your vehicle demonstrates safety awareness. If you assess the situation and determine that it's safe, notifying authorities from within your vehicle allows you to remain in a secure location until help arrives. This method also prevents additional accidents from occurring, as you might be less visible if you are outside on a roadway. The focus should be on making sure that emergency services are alerted promptly, especially in situations where there are injuries or significant damages. Reporting the incident accurately not only helps those involved, but it also provides valuable information for insurance and legal proceedings that may follow.

10. What is a common consequence of brake failure in commercial vehicles?

A. Increased fuel consumption

B. Increased stopping distance

C. Inability to steer

D. Brake overheating

A common consequence of brake failure in commercial vehicles is increased stopping distance. When brakes are compromised or fail to function properly, the vehicle cannot decelerate as effectively as it should. This means that even when a driver applies the brakes, the vehicle will continue to travel forward for a longer distance before coming to a halt. In a commercial vehicle, which is often much heavier than a standard vehicle, the potential for increased stopping distance due to brake failure becomes even more critical. Heavy loads mean that more momentum is present, thus requiring even more effective braking systems. If the brakes are failing, the driver may find it difficult to stop in time, leading to serious accidents or loss of control. The other options mentioned, while they may be related to braking issues, do not directly capture the primary risk associated with brake failure in the moment of critical stopping situations. Increased fuel consumption can occur due to various factors but is not a direct consequence of brake failure. Inability to steer could be due to a range of mechanical issues beyond just braking systems, and brake overheating can happen as a separate issue related to improper braking techniques or excessive use, rather than a direct result of brake failure.

SAMPLE

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://newhampshirecdl.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

SAMPLE